

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF SAM AND LUCY
KEKER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Sam and Lucy Keker of Chevy Chase, MD, who are celebrating their 90th birthdays on April 28th with family and friends at a luncheon in their honor.

My husband Paul and I became friends with Sam and Lucy in San Francisco, where they travel every year for the past 35 years to visit family. This House does not have time for me to list all of their accomplishments, so I will mention only a few items in a long list of proud service to their country, their community, their church, and their families.

Let us start with service to country. Sam served as a Naval Officer at sea in two wars, World War II and Korea, and Lucy did what wives did during those wars, which was follow him wherever she could. Later, both their sons were combat Marines in Vietnam and both were wounded.

Sam and Lucy met at a student government conference in Albuquerque, NM, in 1938, where Lucy represented Women's College of the University of North Carolina as Student Body President, and Sam represented American University as Vice President of its student government. They married in 1941 and eventually settled in Montgomery County, MD.

Sam rose through the ranks to retire as Chairman of the Board of U.S. News and World Report, while Lucy pursued her interest in public education, becoming the elected president of the Montgomery County School Board during the building boom of the 1960s (which included a teachers strike) and later serving on the State Board for Higher Education, where she sat with an up-and-coming politician named STENY HOYER. They raised two boys, John, now a lawyer in San Francisco who went to law school with our colleagues MEL WATT and JOHN SPRATT, and Jerry, now an outdoorsman in Boulder, CO. Since 1961, they have been blessed with Tina Keker, who became their surrogate daughter and then daughter-in-law in 1965. They are further blessed with grandsons Adam and Nathan Keker, their wives Amanda and Nora, and four beautiful great-grandchildren. All of them, as well as family and friends from all over the country, will be with them to celebrate their birthdays.

For 50 years Sam and Lucy have been mainstays of the Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church, many of whose members became close friends and will be celebrating with them as well. Sam and Lucy served as Deacons, then as Elders, and always as friends of the CCPC congregation.

They love the game of politics, and are committed to the Democratic Party. Lucy's first Democratic National Convention was in 1940, in Chicago, where she served as a secretary

in the Women's Division of the Democratic National Committee. Lucy went on to become very involved in Maryland State politics, serving as the Montgomery County Chairman to several successful gubernatorial campaigns. They were two of CHRIS VAN HOLLEN's earliest, most vocal, and most generous supporters. Since I have known them I don't think they have missed a Democratic Convention. Sam says they are planning to be in Denver in 2008.

What I have always admired about Sam and Lucy is their indomitable spirit and youthfulness. They inspire us all by their never-flagging interest in life, especially young people. On behalf of the Congress, I extend to them the warmest congratulations on their 90th birthdays.

HONORING OAKLAND POSTMASTER
LAWRENCE BARNES

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and career of Lawrence Barnes. Larry served with distinction as the Postmaster of Oakland from 1995 until 2007. His appointment as Postmaster came after more than 35 years of loyal service to the United States Postal Service (USPS), in addition to four years of honorable service in the United States Air Force. Today Larry celebrates his retirement after more than four decades of outstanding service to his community and his country.

Larry graduated from high school in 1965, at which time he joined the U.S. Air Force. There he served as an Air Traffic Control Technician, and was honorably discharged in 1969.

Upon leaving the military, Larry began his career with the USPS as a distribution clerk. Due to his exceptional performance and natural leadership abilities, it did not take long for him to begin moving through the ranks and into management. In the years that followed, Larry was promoted to MPLSM Clerk; Working Group Leader; Supervisor of Mail; MPLSM Supervisor; Management Trainee; Assignments in LRR; Postal Systems Examiner; MCS; Acting Superintendent; and General Supervisor. Following his extraordinary service in all of these areas, Larry was appointed as the Postmaster of Oakland on December 23, 1995.

As Postmaster, Larry worked tirelessly not only to improve USPS functions for individual customers and employees, but also to build a stronger community. A regular speaker at neighborhood meetings, he always made the effort to reach out to Oakland residents, and to be available to hear their ideas and concerns. Larry and his staff have also been active in local efforts to improve air quality and public health. I was proud and honored to host Larry as a speaker at my September 2006 Town Hall Meeting on West Oakland air qual-

ity. At that forum he provided updates on USPS efforts to modernize its vehicles and decrease its diesel emissions, actions that have greatly helped to improve air quality and public health in West Oakland.

In addition to being a dedicated government servant throughout his career, Larry is a committed husband, father, grandfather, bowler, and fan of the San Francisco 49ers and Oakland Raiders. Furthermore, he is a leader in the faith community, serving as an active member of the Abyssinian Missionary Baptist Church (AMBC) Men's Ministry, serving under the direction of Dr. Kevin D. Barnes, Pastor of AMBC. Education has also been a priority for Larry throughout his life. He graduated from Merritt College with an AA in Social Science in 1976, and is currently attending C.B. Mason Bible College.

I have known Larry for many years, and it has always been a pleasure to work with him. His commitment to his employees, his customers and to the Oakland community has had a positive impact on countless lives. On this very special day, I join the friends, family and colleagues of Lawrence Barnes in thanking and saluting him for his profound contributions to California's 9th Congressional District, our country and our world.

BETWEEN POSSIBILITY AND
PERIL: CONFRONTING THE CRI-
SIS CONCERNING AFRICAN-
AMERICAN BOYS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the accomplishments of David J. Johns, a Congressional Black Caucus Fellow, currently working in my office, who convened an important policy discussion on the subject of African-American high school Underachievement and the No Child Left Behind Act on Monday, April 16, 2007. I am also entering into the record an article titled "America Has Lost A Generation of Black Boys," written by Phillip Jackson for the CaribNews on the week ending April 17, 2007. Both address the importance of recognizing and tackling the significant challenges faced by young African-American males both in and outside the classroom.

In inner cities, more than half of all African-American males do not finish high school. One third of male youth of color are unemployed or not seeking employment; and 1 in every 3 African-American men between the ages of 20 and 29 is under correctional supervision. In many school districts throughout the United States, African-American males are more likely than any other group to be expelled from

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